

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EB-11 COME-00 INT-08 SCEM-02 TRSE-00

XMB-07 CU-04 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 RSR-01 /082 W
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P 271458Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 800

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 6986

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (MRN 6986 VICE 6988)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, NI

SUBJECT: OIL: IN-SERVICE TRAINING IN U.S.

REF: (A) STATE 109426; (B) LAGOS 5228

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: ECON COUNSELOR HAVING INTRODUCTORY MEETING WITH M.O. REYIDE, DIRECTOR OF PETROLEUM RESOURCES, AUGUST 29, AND WE SUPPOSE HE MAY RAISE AGAIN QUESTION OF IN-SERVICE TRAINING. APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ON WHAT WE MAY SAY ABOUT CURRENT STATUS THIS SUBJECT IN WASHINGTON. END SUMMARY.

2. WE RECALL THAT ON OCCASION HIS JUNE VISIT TO U.S. FEYIDE SAID THAT NIGERIA'S CRITICAL REQUIREMENT IS FOR IN-SERVICE TRINING FOR GRADUATES IN U.S. PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, AND HE SUGGESTED FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE BY UG (REFTEL A). IN DISCUSSION HERE WITH REPRESENTATIVES U.S. OIL COMPANIES AVIVE IN NIGERIA, QE FOUND ONLY LIMITED SYMPATHY FOR FEYIDE PROPOSAL AND WE SUGGESTED DEPARTMENT MIGHT WISH TO DISCUSS WITH U.S. PRINCIPALS (REFTEL B).

3. WE DO NOT INTEND TO RAISE THIS SUBJECT IN WEDNESDAY
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MEETING, NOR TO PRUSUE IT IF FEYIDE RAISES IT. HOW-

EVER, SHOULD FEYIDE INTRODUCE SUBJECT, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO KNOW IF DEPARTMENT PURSUING MATTER WITH COMPANIES, AND TO KNOW WHAT WE MAY SAY TO FEYIDE, IF ANYTHING, THAT WOULD BE RESPONSIVE TO HIS CONCERN.

4. COMMENT: FYI. IN RECENT SERIES OF CONVERSATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT, LOCAL PHILLIPS REP SAID PHILLIPS WILLING TO TAKE 5 OR 6 GRADUATES ANNUALLY FOR IN-SERVICE TRAINING, BUT WOULD WANT TO BE RESPONSIBLE ONLY FOR TRAINING AND NOT FOR LOGISTICS, I.E., SELECTION, TRAVEL, HOUSING, DETERMINATION OF ALLOWANCES. PHILLIPS WOULD EXPECT ITS RESPONSIBILITY TO BEGIN WHEN TRAINEE REPORTS IN MORNING AND END WHEN HE LEAVES AT NIGHT. LOCAL GULF REP ALSO TOOK MORE POSITIVE LINE IN RECENT CONVERSATIONS, INDICATING THAT GULF WILLING CONSIDER SMALL NUMBER TRAINEES ANNUALLY (PROBABLY 4 OR 5) ALTHOUGH NOT ENTHUSIASTIC. ACCORDING LOCAL REP, GULF ALSO SKEPTICAL ABOUT PITFALLS INVOLVED IF IT HAS LOGISTICS RESPONSIBILITY. LOCAL MOBIL REP SAYS MOBIL DETERMINED RESPOND TO FEYIDE'S CONCERN AND IS DISCUSSING POSSIBILITIES WITH HIM. MOBIL BRINGING GENERAL MANAGER PROT HARCOURT REFINERY TO U.S. IN FALL FOR VISITS TO MOBIL REFINERIES AND WILL ALSO DISCUSS WITH HIM TRAINING POSSIBILITIES FOR TWO OR MORE GRADUATE ENGINEERS. TEXACO AND OCCIDENTIAL, IN MOST RECENT CONVERSATIONS APPROXIMATELY TWO WEEKS AGO, CONTINUED TO BE SKEPTICAL ABOUT KIND OF U.S. IN-SERVICE TRAINING FEYIDE WISHED, ALTHOUGH STRESSING THEIR CONCERN MAXIMIZE TRAINING OF NIGERIANS IN THEIR OWN OPERATIONS. END FYI.

5. ACTION: APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT BE ABLE REPLY IN TIME FOR WEDNESDAY MEETING, BUT DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE HELPFUL FOR FOLLOW-UP IF FEYIDE DOES RAISE SUBJECT.
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